

Application No. 09/252,551

REMARKS

Claims 1-170 are in the application, with claims 145-170 having been added. Of the claims under consideration, claims 105, 106, 108, 111, 113, 115, 117 and 130-144 were amended by an Amendment dated March 15, 2000. Further examination is respectfully requested.

In the Amendment dated March 15, 2000, applicants submitted an amended Reissue Oath/Declaration that addressed certain defects noted by the Examiner. As to the addition of new claims 145-170, by virtue of this Amendment, these claims are introduced as embellishments on claims 104-129. Each newly added claim substantially corresponds in subject matter to a corresponding one of claims 104-129 and does not attempt to expand the scope of any of the originally submitted claims. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that a supplemental reissue oath/declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.175(b)(1), specifically referring to errors addressed by the newly added claims, is unnecessary.

Applicants respectfully request entry of newly added claims 145-170 upon approval and entry of the amended Reissue Oath/Declaration submitted March 15, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,

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